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Subject:	2018 HB 5384	

I am writing to express support for increased disclosure requirements outlined in HB 5384 for pharmacy benefits managers, health carriers, pharmaceutical manufacturers.

The increasing cost of prescription drugs are a growing concern for Connecticut consumers. Johns Hopkins University reports that prescription drugs account for one out of every ten healthcare dollar spent and rising (April, 2017). According to AARP, approximately 1 in 4 Americans reported having trouble paying for their medical bills (May 2017). The Center for Disease Control reports that 23.6% low income and uninsured Americans did not take medication as prescribed due to cost (CDC 2011).

The lack of transparency by pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacy benefit managers and health carriers make it impossible for patients and their physicians to develop treatment plans that patients can afford to follow. Measures that improve transparency are important to any effort to improve the health of Connecticut's individuals and families.

Thank you for your consideration. Arlene Murphy, Fairfield CT